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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 47 No. 24 Pages: 12 Rs. 3.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 22 / 23
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MYSURU Monday 11th March 2024
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MYSORE'S BEST

Mysuru's Planetarium to be ready by year-end

Rs. 81-crore project overseen by Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India and managed by Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru

Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam, Director, IIA, Bengaluru

The civil works of planetarium project taken up under Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre (COSMOS) initiative progressing at the 3-acre plot of Mysore University campus at the foot of Chamundi Hill in Mysuru.

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BCT)- The civil works for the state-of-the-art planetarium and allied blocks in Mysuru are advancing at an accelerated pace on a three-acre plot in the University of Mysore (UoM) campus at the foot of Chamundi Hill.

Pillars have been erected to support the construction of the domes, marking significant progress in the project.

The project is being overseen by the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India and is managed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

The planetarium is coming up at an estimated cost of Rs. 81 crore as part of the Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre (COSMOS) project and is funded by MPLAD funds from Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the Department of Science and Technology and the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India.

The foundation stone was laid by Nirmala Sitharaman on Mar. 6, 2022 and the project is scheduled to be completed this year.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, IIA Director Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam confirmed that the project is on schedule and advancing smoothly, with completion expected later this year.

"Once the civil works are finished, installations will commence simultaneously. We aim to finalise all installations by the end of this year," she said.

The facility will feature a 15-metre LED dome planetarium with a 15-degree inclination (tilt), capable of accommodating approximately 130-150 individuals.

(See PLANETARIUM on page 6)

Prathap Simha seeks flyover

from Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa Circle to Yelwal

Prathap Simha

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BLU& BCT)- Mysuru-Kodagu MP Prathap Simha has urged Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari to approve the construction of a flyover stretching from Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa Circle (Metropole Circle) in the heart of Mysuru city to Yelwal, the outskirts.

Speaking at an event at Maharaja's College Grounds here yesterday afternoon to lay foundation stones for a series of National Highway projects in the Mysuru, Mandya and Hassan regions worth over Rs. 4,000 crore, the MP reasoned that the Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa Circle is one of the busiest Circles in Mysuru city and desperately needs a flyover to connect directly to National Highway 275 (NH 275).

Highlighting the significance of NH 275 from Metropole Circle and extending towards Hunsur, Simha emphasised the necessity of a flyover along this route to Yelwal.

Additionally, he advocated for a flyover on NH 212 (now NH 766 that connects Kozhikode in Kerala with Kollegal in Karnataka), citing congestion issues during peak hours.

Recognising the endeavours of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari in propelling road infrastructure, Simha underscored the potential of enhanced connectivity to Mysuru in attracting tech jobs to the city. He lauded Gadkari for his ongoing development projects across India, particularly in the Mysuru region.

He highlighted the absence of IT and Biotechnology companies in Mysuru compared to Bengaluru, expressing optimism that with improved road and rail networks, these industries would flourish in Mysuru, providing employment opportunities for locals.

[See also page 5]

Solar Ropeway proposed at Chamundi Hill: Gadkari

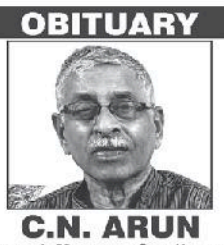
Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BLU&BCT)- The Centre will allocate Rs. 114 crore for the construction of a solar ropeway to Chamundi Hill in Mysuru. This announcement was made by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari in city yesterday.

Nitin Gadkari

The ropeway project aims to enhance accessibility to Sri Chamundeshwari Temple and its surroundings, providing a convenient mode of transportation for tourists and devotees alike. With a planned length of 1.4 kms, the ropeway is poised to become a prominent feature of the region's tourism landscape.

"We have approved a total of 16 ropeways in Karnataka, which will be built at a total cost of Rs. 5,000 crore. The projects approved by the Centre include not only Kodachadri Hill, Anjanadri Hill, Kalhattigiri Hill and Devarayanadurga Hill but also Chamundi Hill in Mysuru. The solar ropeway project for Chamundi Hill would be 1.4 kms long and will be built at a cost of Rs. 114 crore," Gadkari said.

OBITUARY



C.N. ARUN
Rtd. Branch Manager, Syndicate Bank
We miss your presence and in our hearts you live forever.
—Mys Chaddi Dosts.

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 11th March 2024

Eye and health camp held for children with special needs

Mysuru, Mar. 11- India Vision Care Eye Clinic, in collaboration with ClearMedi Multispeciality Hospital and Sahara School for Children with Special Needs in Mysuru, run by Minhaj Interfaith and Welfare Foundation India, had organised a free health camp for children recently.

The camp provided eye screening, health check-ups assessing blood pressure and sugar levels and ECGs.

A total of 77 children underwent comprehensive eye tests, ensuring early detection and care for ocular health while 55 participants received health check-ups for both blood pressure and sugar levels, addressing broader well-being concerns.

This collaborative initiative not only emphasised preventive healthcare but also demonstrated a commitment to the holistic well-being of the community, particularly focusing on those with special needs.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Credit cards, if not used responsibly, can easily and quickly lead to a debt spiral. Not paying credit card outstanding can become financially draining, as you keep accumulating interest on the balance as well as new purchases, making credit card debt larger with each day.

While unforeseen emergencies can sometimes lead to unmanageable debt, in many cases overspending and irresponsible usage lead to such an insurmountable debt. Hence, it is important to manage credit cards wisely.

Credit cards, with 40 to 50 day interest free period, offer you the convenience of buying now and paying later. However, what comes with this benefit is the temptation to overspend. Spending too much can be risky, especially if you are unsure of future cash flow. You should be responsible with expenses by making conscious choices about purchases to avoid falling into debt.

Missed or late payments are one of the primary reasons why people fall into credit card debt. When you miss payments, credit card issuers levy high interest rates and late fees, which can quickly accumulate. Furthermore, paying only the minimum amount due every month is also not advisable. Paying the entire balance each month on time is the best way to avoid credit card debt.

Credit cards also give the facility to withdraw cash from an ATM, up to a limit. However, cash withdrawals from credit cards can quickly lead to debt for two reasons. One, cash withdrawals do not qualify for the interest free period, which means interest will be applicable from the day of withdrawal. And, two, when you withdraw cash, new transactions become ineligible for the interest free period, which means you will incur interest charges with each purchase.

Overall, responsible credit management is important to handle such debt. By implementing practices such as creating a realistic budget, monitoring financial health and paying bills on time and smartly, you can effectively manage finances without debt burden. *— Rohit Chhibbar, Head of Credit Cards Business, Paisabazaar, in The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Man with hoarse voice finds leech in his throat

Hanoi: A man who started experiencing throat discomfort and speaking with a hoarse voice discovered that he had a 6-cm-long leech sucking blood from his throat.

A 53-year-old Vietnamese man suffering these symptoms thought the same thing until he started spitting blood, at which point he realized things were worse than they appeared. At first, he tried identifying the cause himself, by opening his mouth and looking in the mirror, but he couldn't see much apart from what looked like a brown mass in the upper part of his throat. The man panicked and immediately sought professional medical assistance; that's how he learned that he had a leech attached to his throat.

When the man arrived at the National Hospital of Endocrinology in Hanoi complaining of throat discomfort and occasionally spitting blood, doctors performed an endoscopy that revealed a 6-cm-long leech attached firmly to his throat.

Man gets vaccinated for COVID-19 217 times

Magdeburg: A team of German scientists studied a 62-year-old man who deliberately got 217 COVID-19 vaccine shots over 29 months and found that he suffered from no negative vaccine-related side effects.

Over a period of 29 months, the unnamed 62-year-old from Magdeburg, Germany, got no less than 217 COVID-19 jabs, an average of four doses per day. He is called a 'walking experiment', so after hearing about him from a newspaper, researchers contacted him and asked if they could study him in the name of science. The man agreed, and the team recently published a number of intriguing findings in the Lancet Infectious Diseases Journal.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Most cases of chronic kidney disease show no overt symptoms during the early stage. Individuals with high risk factors are advised to check their kidney functions regularly.

By Dr. Vipin Kaverappa P.T. - Consultant – Nephrology - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

Mysore District Moon Committee Meeting this evening

Mysuru, Mar. 11- A meeting of Mysore District Hilal (Moon) Committee will be held at the Office of Mysore District Wakf Advisory Committee, Muslim Boys Orphanage campus, new Sayyaji Rao Road, Mysuru, today (Mar. 11) after Namaz-e-Maghrib at 6.35 pm to sight the Moon to declare the start of Holy Month of Ramzan and fasting.

Members of public are requested to contact the Mysore District Hilal Committee personally or over Ph: 0821-2423520 or Mob: 96866-17006 or 99458-39344 or 94482-18055 to inform about the sighting of Moon with sufficient witness or to get the information regarding sighting of Moon, according to a press release from Mohamed Mushtaq, Waqf Officer, Mysore District Waqf Advisory Committee.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284.00 feet**	Maximum **2,859.00 feet**
Today's level **88.35 feet**	Today's level **2,268.01 feet**	Today's level **2,830.16 feet**
Last year's level **104.30 feet**	Last year's level **2,263.24 feet**	Last year's level **2,827.57 feet**
Yesterday's level **88.56 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,268.26 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,830.22 feet**
Today's Inflow **169 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **27 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **189 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **1,468 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,292 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Ice cream's origins are known to reach back as far as the second century B.C., although no specific date of origin nor inventor has been undisputably credited with its discovery. We know that Alexander the Great enjoyed snow and ice flavoured with honey and nectar.***
- ***The first official account of ice cream in the New World comes from a letter written in 1744 by a guest of Maryland Governor William Bladen. The first advertisement for ice cream in this country appeared in the New York Gazette on May 12, 1777, when confectioner Philip Lenzi announced that ice cream was available "almost every day."***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Once a very hefty man stood on a weighing machine and inserted a rupee coin in it. After a couple of seconds, a ticket came out. On it was written "Two persons are not allowed to stand on this machine!"

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 82.68
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 106.25
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 22.51
1 Euro	= Rs. 90.43

VOICE OF THE READER

Plug UGD leakage

Sir,

This is to bring to the notice of officials concerned on the leakage of UGD water which is creating health issues for people around the area.

The UGD line near 7th Cross, 3rd Main junction of Ramakrishnanagar 'I' Block is leaking and filling in the open trench, leading to very bad smell since a few months.

Several complaints to local leaders including MCC Corporator to take action to prevent leakage have fallen on deaf ears. Occasionally somebody from MCC comes and does some temporary work to clear the blockage in the nearby manhole but after a few days the problem reappears.

Residents here are fed up with the poor response and temporary work from the authorities.

The drainage system in this area is very old, about more than 25 years and creates similar issues at one or the other spot in the locality. A permanent solution is required from the responsible authorities to help the citizens. Hoping to see somebody soon with a permanent action.

—Sathyaganapathi
Ramakrishnanagar 'I' Block
1.3.2024

Tele-ICUs at Taluk Hospitals a life saver for needy people

Over 1,500 persons with cardiac ailment treated on time

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (GA&BS)- Tele-Intensive Care Units (Tele-ICUs) launched at Taluk Hospitals in the district have turned into a life saver for the needy people, with over 1,500 receiving cardiac-related treatment on time.

The Tele-ICU facility was introduced at 11 taluks in seven districts of Mysuru Division in June 2022 and in a short span of seven months up to Jan. 2023, a total of 5,579 people have been provided treatment. These centres are functioning at the Taluk Hospitals in K.R. Nagar, Nanjangud, H.D. Kote, T. Narasipur and Hunsur, and considering the positive response, plans are afoot to extend the facility to 30 Taluk Hospitals.

The Tele-ICU offers emergency treatment and hence there is a cut down in the volume of emergency cases at the district centres from the taluk centres, from earlier 80 percent to 20 percent in Mysuru Division alone.

It consists of Taluk Hospitals of K.R. Nagar, Nanjangud, H.D. Kote, T. Narasipur and Hunsur in Mysuru District; Kollegal in Chamarajanagar district; Arkalgud and Holenarasipura in Hassan district; Virajpet and Somwarpet in Kodagu; Malavalli and Nagamangala in Mandya.

Expert doctors giving advice from the Mysuru District Hub set up at Trauma Care Centre on KRS Road in city to the patients at Tele-ICU facilities.

"A total of 30 centres including Mysuru, Bengaluru, Hubballi and Belagavi Divisions comprising 41 Taluk Hospitals in the State, boast of 10-bedded Tele-ICU Units. The Department of Health and Family Welfare has decided to extend the service to all the Taluk Hospitals," said Mysuru District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. P.C. Kumaraswamy.

Functioning of Tele-ICU

A hub will be set up at the district centre, where expert doctors will diagnose the patients with the help of Television and Closed Circuit (CC) cameras at Tele-ICU Unit at Taluk Hospitals and recommend the treatment.

The staff at Tele-ICU start the treatment on the advice of doctors.

The Mysuru District Hub is set up at Trauma Care Centre in PKTB Sanatorium premises on KRS road in the city, where the expert doctors work round-the-clock.

The condition of patients in need of emergency care will be stabilised and referred to District Hospitals in case they need higher treatment, explained DHO.

It has come in handy especially in the cases of heart attack, as the patients were at a greater risk due to the delay in treatment following the absence of such fast mode treatment earlier. Now, such cases are dwindling, with reduction of pressure on the district hospitals too.

Emergency treatment related to respiratory complaints, various infections, blood flow, nutrition and digestion will be provided at Tele ICU facilty.

'Namma Shale Namma Javabdhari'

MUDA Chairman assures facilities to Govt. Schools

Mysuru, Mar.11 (PM&TRR)- The newly nominated Chairman of Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) K. Marigowda has said that MUDA will provide required basic facilities to Government Schools in Mysuru Taluk.

He was speaking after inaugurating 'Namma Shale Namma Javabdhari' (Our School Our Responsibility) programme at Beerihundi Government High School in Mysuru taluk on Saturday.

"Namma Shale Namma Javabdhari is a good programme started by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who donated Rs.10 lakh for the School he studied with the intention that the school is provided with required basic facilities. Following his footsteps, I am providing needed basic facilities worth Rs. 2 lakh for the school where I studied," said Marigowda.

Stating that both Central and State Governments are providing more grants to education sector since independence, he said that successive governments have focused on giving free quality education at Government Schools by appointing good teachers. "But most of the parents neither attend the functions held at Government Schools nor take care of their children's studies," he rued.

"Children must compulsorily bring their parents to schools. Schools are like temples and children are nation's wealth," added the MUDA Chairman and concluded by saying that it is his wish that the students of this school must study well and occupy high positions in the society by becoming IAS or KAS Officers..

Retired teacher Jayashree Marigowda, DDPI H.K. Pandu, BRC Mahadev, PDO Ramdas, leaders Dr. R.V. Sudha, Vasantha and others were present on the occasion.

LS poll: BJP to announce 2nd list by tomorrow

New Delhi, Mar.11 (TRR)- The Central Election Committee (CEC) of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will meet today evening to finalise its second list of candidates for the Lok Sabha (LS) election to be held shortly.

According to highly placed sources, BJP is likely to announce its second list of candidates either today or tomorrow.

The CEC meeting, which was slated to be held yesterday, was postponed to today evening as Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a tour. Apart from PM Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP National President J.P. Nadda will participate. It is expected that the meeting will finalise its list of candidates for many States including Karnataka.

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Karnataka and Kerala to jointly tackle human-wildlife conflict

Forest Ministers resolve to protect Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, spanning Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu

Bandipur, Mar. 11 (MTY&KS)- Minister for Forest Ecology and Environment, Eshwar B. Khandre, convened a meeting with his Kerala counterpart, A.K. Saseendran, and senior officials from Tamil Nadu to address the escalating human-wildlife conflicts in the region and strategise joint efforts to mitigate them.

The tripartite meeting, held at the auditorium near the Safari Reception Centre at Bandipur on Sunday, saw an agreement to collaborate on identifying and expanding wildlife habitats, underscoring a shared commitment to forest conservation.

Kerala and Karnataka inked an agreement to jointly combat the menace. This pact entails a collaborative mapping of areas susceptible to wildlife attacks, prompt resolution of issues and swift exchange of information between the two States.

Minister Khandre emphasised the collective resolve of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu to tackle man-animal conflicts, poaching and safeguarding forests and wildlife. He clarified that the meeting was not at the behest of the Central Government but stemmed from the mutual concern and proactive efforts of the three southern States. Khandre remarked, "Our commitment to mitigating human-animal conflicts transcends borders. Strategic coordination fosters seamless collaboration, structured information sharing and concerted efforts against these challenges."

Highlighting the historical movement of wild animals across State borders, Khandre stressed the need to address elephant corridors and tiger migration routes. Plans to minimise casualties and crop damage are underway.

During discussions, Saseendran advocated for updating the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 to address contemporary challenges effectively. He urged timely amendments, citing significant shifts in social realities since the law's enactment.

The meeting underscored the importance of joint efforts within the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, spanning Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It emphasised collaborative population estimation of elephants and vultures and shared best practices in forest and wildlife conservation.

Khandre unveiled the Inter-State Coordination Committee Charter 2024, facilitating collaborative conflict mitigation efforts across the three States.

Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chief Wildlife Wardens and officials from all three southern States attended. The meeting also addressed challenges such as invasive weeds and explored collaborative initiatives for employment generation.

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre, along with Kerala Forest Minister A.K. Saseendran, unveiling the Inter-State Coordination Committee Charter 2024 during a meeting at the auditorium near the Safari Reception Centre at Bandipur on Sunday as others look on.

Inter-State management strategy

- **Recognition of shared habitats:** Acknowledging the shared responsibility to conserve forests amidst the encroachment of human settlements.
- **Commitment to collaboration:** Pledging to collaborate seamlessly, share intelligence effectively and conduct joint operations to address conservation challenges.
- **Exchange of resources and expertise:** Facilitating the exchange of critical resources, expertise and knowledge among the participating States.
- **Synchronised population estimation:** Undertaking synchronised population estimation of wildlife species and coordinating operations accordingly.
- **Advisory board formation:** Establishing an advisory board comprising experts to provide guidance and resolve conflicts arising from conservation efforts.

Vasu's last rites performed as per Vokkaliga customs

Kaveesh Gowda, the eldest son of late Vasu, performing last rites at the campus of Vidya Vikas in city yesterday in the presence of Vasu's mentor and former CM Dr. M. Veerappa Moily. Pic. right: ***Leaders & volunteers of Congress Sevadal paying 'Dhwaja Vandana' to Vasu at Congress Bhavan.***

Vasu

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (SBD&BCT)- The final rites of former Chamaraja MLA Vasu, affectionately known as 'Mayor Vasu' in political and personal circles, were performed yesterday evening at the premises of Vidya Vikas Educational Institutions, which he founded and established on Mysuru-Bannur Main Road.

Following the customs of the Vokkaliga community, the rituals commenced around 4.25 pm near the site where his wife Lalitha V. Gowda's last rites were conducted. Vasu's sons, Kaveesh Gowda, Avish Gowda and Ritesh Gowda, along with daughters-in-law and relatives, led the proceedings. The eldest son, Kavish Gowda, ignited the pyre, marking the culmination of the ceremony.

Former Chief Minister and Union Minister, Dr. M. Veerappa Moily, paid his respects to Vasu, highlighting their close association. Vasu had served as the Political Secretary to Moily during his tenure as Chief Minister from 1992 to 1994. Whenever Moily visited Mysuru, Vasu was invariably by his side, a steadfast companion and supporter to his political mentor, regardless of personal or professional commitments.

Others who paid their last respects were former Minister Rani Satish, MLC Marithibbegowda, Congress Women's Wing President Dr. B. Pushpa Amarnath, former MUDA Chairman C. Basavegowda, former MLA L. Nagendra, Dr. Rajashekhar and Dr. Latha Rajashekhar.

Before the last rites, the mortal remains of Vasu were transported from his residence on Jayalakshmipuram Temple Road to Bannur Road in a vehicle adorned with flowers. Before departing from his house, rituals were conducted at 12.30 pm.

The procession commenced at 2.30 pm and the body was brought to the Congress Office, where a host of party leaders, including Congress District President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, City President R. Murthy and former MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, paid their respects.

Leaders and volunteers of Congress Sevadal honoured the departed leader with 'Dhwaja Vandana' as a gesture of gratitude for his service. After spending over 30 minutes at the Congress office, the mortal remains were taken to the premises of Vidya Vikas Educational Institutions, where hundreds of people paid their respects along the route.

Obituary

Yajaman Maddappa

Mysuru, Mar. 11- Yajaman Maddappa (83), a resident of Lingambudhipalya and belonging to the Koragajja Temple Chief Priest family, passed away on Saturday in city.

He is survived by six daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Lingabudhipalya Burial Grounds here yesterday.

R. Paramjyothi

R. Paramjyothi (49), publisher and a resident of Bogadi 2nd Stage, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives.

Last rites were held at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds in Vidyaranyapuram this afternoon.

Gavigowda

Gavigowda (84), retired Horticulture Department Officer and a resident of Hebbal, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the burial grounds in Hebbal here this morning.

National Highways in Karnataka to resemble US roads: Gadkari

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BLU&BCT)- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari has expressed optimism that by the end of 2024, National Highways in Karnataka will mirror the road infrastructure of the United States (US).

He spoke at an event at Maharaja's College Grounds in city last afternoon to lay foundation stones for a series of National Highway projects in Mysuru, Mandya and Hassan regions worth over Rs. 4,000 crore. Gadkari conveyed his happiness and pride regarding the progress of National Highway projects in Karnataka and voiced confidence that the State's National Highway road network will soon match the standards seen in the United States.

In response to the representations received from Mysuru-Kodagu MP Prathap Simha and Mandya MP Sumalatha Ambarish regarding infrastructure improvements on the Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway, Gadkari assured that necessary measures would be taken promptly. He pledged to approve underpasses, foot over-bridges and enhancements of entry and exit points on the Expressway within the next 15 days.

"I assure you that approval for the underpasses, foot over-bridges and entry and exit points will be granted within 15 days. Also, I will ask the Ministry officials to prepare a detailed project report on Prathap Simha's proposal to upgrade the existing 4-lane highway from Mysuru to Nanjangud into a six-lane one," he affirmed.

Additionally, Gadkari emphasised that the foot over-bridges on Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway would prioritise accessibility for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities by installing lifts.

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari pressing the button to lay foundation stones for a series of National Highway projects in the Mysuru, Mandya and Hassan regions worth over Rs. 4,000 crore at Maharaja's College Grounds in city yesterday afternoon. Others seen are (from left) MLA G.D. Harish Gowda, MP Prathap Simha, MLA H.D. Revanna, MP S. Muniswamy, District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, MLC A.H. Vishwanath, MP Sumalatha Ambarish, MLC C.N. Manjegowda and MLA T.S. Srivatsa.

Connecting Kushalnagar to Bengaluru

The Mysuru-Kushalnagar National Highway-275 project is underway at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,200 crores consisting of a total of five packages. Once completed, it will connect Kushalnagar to Bengaluru.

Once complete, the highway will bring down the journey time between Kushalnagar to Bengaluru from the existing five hours to just two-and-a-half hours. He said the road will also provide an alternative route between Bengaluru and Mangaluru whenever there is a landslide in Shiradi ghats.

Nitin Gadkari informed that when he took office as the Minister in 2014, Karnataka had 6,707 kilometres of National Highways. However, the State now has 8,200 kilometres of National Highways. While 151 projects envisaging 3,063 km have already been completed at a cost of Rs. 60,000 crore, about 94 projects covering 2,372 km have been undertaken at a cost of Rs. 90,000 crore.

Revanna lauds Gadkari

Speaking at the event, former Minister and Holenarasipur MLA H.D. Revanna commended the Centre for its development initiatives across various sectors, notably roads and aviation. He attributed these achievements to the dedication of Prime Minister Modi's administration.

Revanna highlighted the efficiency of Nitin Gadkari, stating that irrespective of political parties, funds for road development are consistently approved under Gadkari's leadership. He emphasised that supporters and opposition party members acknowledge Gadkari's commendable efforts and urged the people to support PM Narendra Modi in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, MPs Prathap Simha, Sumalatha Ambarish and S. Muniswamy, MLAs H.D. Revanna, T.S. Srivatsa and G.D. Harish Gowda, MLCs H. Vishwanath and C.N. Manjegowda and others were present.

Expressway: Dr. Mahadevappa attempts to set records straight

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BLU&BCT)- Social Welfare Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, also the Minister in-charge of Mysuru district, clarified the Congress-led UPA–2's role in enhancing road infrastructure in the State. Serving as the Public Works Minister from 2013 to 2018 in the previous Congress regime, Mahadevappa highlighted his and CM Siddaramaiah's efforts in proposing the upgrade of State Highways to National Highways to the UPA-2 Government.

A DPR was prepared, leading to the sanction, declaration and notification of 1,882 km of State Highways as National Highways in Karnataka by late Oscar Fernandes, the then Minister for Surface Transport and Highways in the UPA-2 Government.

Despite the end of the UPA-2 regime in 2014, Mahadevappa and Siddaramaiah persisted in advocating for the proposal with Nitin Gadkari, the subsequent Minister. The roughly 2,000 km of State Highways declared as National Highways by the UPA-2 were carried forward for development under the next regime. Notably, highways such as the Mysuru-Bengaluru and Bidar-Chamarajanagar were upgraded to National Highways during UPA-2, he claimed.

Mahadevappa encountered an awkward situation when a section of the audience began chanting "Modi, Modi" as he stepped up to the podium to deliver his address.

Eye Retrieval Centre inaugurated at MRC Eye Hospital

Industrialist R. Guru lighting the lamp during the inauguration of Eye Retrieval Centre at MRC Eye Hospital in city on Saturday as (from left) Lions International Eye Bank, Bengaluru, Medical Director Dr. Rekha Gyanchand, Governor of Lions International District 317A Ln. Suresh Ramu, District Governor of Lions International District 317G Ln. Dr. N. Krishnegowda, Mysore Race Club (MRC) Ltd. and MRC Charitable Trust Chairman K.M. Chandregowda, Managing Trustee of Lions Club of Bangalore West Trust Ln. P.S. Premnath, former MRC Chairmen Y.B. Ganesh, B.G. Muthappa and Dr. N. Nithyanand Rao, and MRC Charitable Trust Trustee Dr. T. Vijaykumar look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (PM&KS) - An Eye Retrieval Centre was inaugurated at Mysore Race Club (MRC) Eye Hospital in Siddarthanagar here on Saturday.

The Eye Retrieval Centre is started jointly by Mysore Race Club (MRC) Charitable Trust and Lions International Eye Bank (A unit of Lions Club of Bangalore West Trust) and the Centre was inaugurated by MRC Chairman K.M. Chandregowda.

Speaking on the occasion, Chandregowda said that the Race Club began in 1891 and in 1991 it completed 100 years. To commemorate the 100 years, MRC Eye Hospital began functioning in 1994.

Pointing out that the Eye Hospital saw hurdles initially, Chandregowda said that a donation of Rs. 29 lakh was received from the Lions Club and later the Eye Hospital moved forward with help from donors and help from the Race Club, he added.

"The Hospital joined hands with the Government for eradication of blindness and 11 lakh patients were treated as out-patients. The Eye Hospital is providing medical service to residents of four districts including Mysuru," he said.

About 83,000 people have undergone eye surgeries at the Hospital out of which the Hospital has conducted 33,000 free surgeries. The doctors and staff have worked hard for the growth of the Hospital besides providing the best service, Chandregowda said.

District Governor of Lions International District 317G Ln. Dr. N. Krishnegowda said that the MRC has grown as an organisation and is providing the best service to the society and thanked erstwhile Mysore ruler Chamaraja Wadiyar for establishing MRC. He also lauded the then office-bearers of MRC for starting MRC Eye Hospital to provide the best eye care for the poor and the needy.

Lions International Eye Bank, Bengaluru, Medical Director Dr. Rekha Gyanchand, who also spoke, said that when there was no enough awareness on eye donation in Karnataka (1984), Lions International Eye Bank was established and every year awareness on eye donations are held in a unique way at Bengaluru.

Mysuru Industrialist R. Guru, District Governor of Lions International District 317A Ln. Suresh Ramu, Chairman of District Lions Service Foundation District 317G Ln. Devegowda, Managing Trustee of Lions Club of Bangalore West Trust Ln. P.S. Premnath, former MRC Chairmen B.G. Muthappa, Dr. N. Nithyanand Rao and Y.B. Ganesh, Trustees of MRC Charitable Trust Dr. T. Vijaykumar and Arjun Ranga and others were present.

One-day training programme on Child Rights and Laws held in city

Karnataka State Child Rights Protection Commission Member S. Manju is seen lighting the lamp during the inauguration of the one-day training programme on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, Mission Vatsalya and Prohibition of Child Marriage Act organised at Mysuru SP Office auditorium here this morning. Others seen are (from left) District Child Welfare Officer Yogesh, District Child Welfare Committee Member Dhananjaya, DLSA Member-Secretary B.J. Dinesh, Additional SP Dr. B.N. Nandini and DCP (Crime and Traffic) S. Jahnavi. Picture right shows a section of audience.

Mysuru, Mar.11 (RK&VNS) - Officials concerned should work in tandem to prevent incidents such as child marriages and other atrocities against children, said District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Member-Secretary B.J. Dinesh here this morning.

He was speaking after inaugurating the day-long training programme on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, Mission Vatsalya, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act for Police personnel and officials and staff of Department of Health and Family Welfare and Department of Panchayat Development, jointly organised by Directorate of Child Protection, Department of Women and Child Development, District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, District Child Protection Unit and Police Department at Mysuru SP office auditorium.

Incidents such as child marriages, children being used for begging and labour, molestation among others are clear violation of child rights. On such cases being reported, both the Police and other officials concerned should co-ordinate and act immediately to prevent incidents, said Dinesh.

Citing an example of a child marriage case reported in Periyapatna, Dinesh said while District Child Protection Officer reported the incident to Periyapatna Police, it was not registered citing that the temple where the incident took place fell under the jurisdiction of Hunsur Police. Later, when a complaint filed before the Hunsur Police similar reason was given for not filing the FIR.

"Despite being informed to file the FIR irrespective of territorial jurisdiction during various training programmes, cases of FIR not being filed are still being reported. As per the Supreme Court directives, the Police must immediately register a case under POCSO, JJ Act and other relevant Acts irrespective of their jurisdiction," he added.

Dinesh also informed the participants about procedures to be followed to ascertain the age of the children subjected to atrocities. "Officials can examine the school records, birth certificates issued by local bodies and also subject the child to medical examination to ascertain the age," he said and added that to prevent atrocities against children it was important to educate them.

Resource persons from various departments have been invited to deliberate on various topics in connection with child rights and laws.

Karnataka State Child Rights Protection Commission Member S. Manju, DCP (Crime and Traffic) S. Jahnavi, Additional SP Dr. B.N. Nandini, District Child Welfare Officer Yogesh and others were present.

Mysuru's Planetarium

(Continued from page 1)

Not a conventional planetarium

When asked about the speciality of the LED dome planetarium that is coming up in Mysuru and how is it distinctive from other planetariums, IIA Director Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam said that the LED (Light Emitting Diode) Planetarium uses arrays of LED lights mounted directly on the dome's interior.

"These panels work together to create a seamless and immersive visual experience for the audience. LEDs themselves emit light, creating a more vibrant and detailed image. It offers superior brightness, a wider colour range and sharper resolution. LED dome planetariums offer higher brightness levels and improved contrast ratios compared to conventional projection systems. This results in vivid and vibrant visuals," she explained.

In contrast to projection systems utilising a projector, the LED dome system employs the entire dome as a vast monitor, resulting in superior image quality, brightness and unrivalled contrast and colour rendition.

LED dome suits best when you have large events which are taking place these days. So the entire dome will be full of LED panels and the key advantage lies in their ability to deliver significantly enhanced contrast with 8K resolution, thereby eliminating the issues commonly encountered with conventional projection systems, where images frequently suffer from washout, the IIA Director added.

Outreach programmes at schools

Regarding outreach programmes aimed at fostering awareness of astronomy among students, the COSMOS Centre in Mysuru has been proactive. N. Amoghavarsha is the Project Associate of COSMOS, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Vijnana Bhavan, Manasagangothri.

"Initially, when embarking on the planetarium project, it was understood that construction and setup would span a couple of years due to its long-term nature. However, recognising the urgency of promoting astronomy education, it was deemed imperative to commence outreach programmes without delay," Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam explained.

While the planetarium's construction progresses, the COSMOS Centre has initiated various outreach activities, understanding that they need not await the completion of the physical facility. Once the planetarium is operational, regular shows will commence, but the COSMOS Centre remains committed to ongoing public outreach and educational endeavours and these efforts have proven successful in Mysuru, she explained.

Deciphering ancient Indian astronomy from palm leaf manuscripts at ORI

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BCT)- As part of the planetarium project and its outreach programmes, the COSMOS Centre is actively engaged in researching ancient astronomy. To facilitate this, the Centre is referring to palm leaf manuscripts housed at the University of Mysore's Oriental Research Institute (ORI), aiming to unravel the ancient Indian heritage of astronomy.

"Our goal is to offer the public and participants in our programmes insights into the pivotal role astronomy played in shaping the history and culture of ancient India. This endeavour will provide a window into India's rich astronomical heritage," explained Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam.

"We have a dedicated project member stationed at ORI, tasked with accessing and deciphering ancient astronomical texts. We are in the process of translating manuscripts dating back to the 9th and 11th centuries into Kannada and English. This effort aims to shed light on the methodologies and calculations employed in ancient astronomical practices," she added.

The research being conducted will provide invaluable insights into various aspects of ancient Indian astronomy. It will delve into their conceptualisations of planetary motion, the structure of the solar system and their understanding of constellations.

Furthermore, it will shed light on the Indian system of time measurement, including the methods and instruments employed. Additionally, the research will explore the significant works and legacies of ancient Indian astronomers, contributing to a deeper understanding of India's rich astronomical heritage, she said.

Lok Sabha Election - 2024

Kodava Samaja, Vokkaliga youth bat for Prathap Simha

Prathap Simha

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (MTY&VNS)- With rumours about a possible change in BJP candidate from Mysuru-Kodagu Lok Sabha Constituency making rounds, the Mysuru Kodava Samaja and Vokkaliga Yuva Vedike have come in support of MP Prathap Simha, who has represented the Constituency successfully for two terms.

Mysuru Kodava Samaja President Ponjanda Ganapathy, addressing the presspersons at Pathrakarthara Bhavan this morning, said that the news about Mysuru-Kodagu MP Prathap Simha being overlooked by BJP High Command for the upcoming Lok Sabha was making rounds in various media. If the news about BJP trying to field an alternative candidate is true, it should immediately take a relook at its decision since Prathap Simha had performed exceedingly well in the past 10 years as an MP.

"MP Prathap Simha has been instrumental in bringing about 12 trains to Mysuru, expanding the Mysuru Airport and the runway, construction of Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway, sanctioning of Mysuru-Kushalnagar National Highway among other development projects in the past decade," he said and added that the Mysuru-Kodagu MP had also worked towards changing Mysuru into an industrial hub and electronic city.

Prathap Simha is among those leaders who not only stands for development but also for Hindu dharma, said Ganapathy.

Speaking on the occasion, Shree Kaveri Kodagu Mahila Sangha President Ponjanda Lovely Appaiah said that Prathap Simha was instrumental in getting development projects to Mysuru. "We want good leadership and it is our request to BJP High Command to declare Prathap Simha as the candidate from Mysuru-Kodagu LS Constituency," she added.

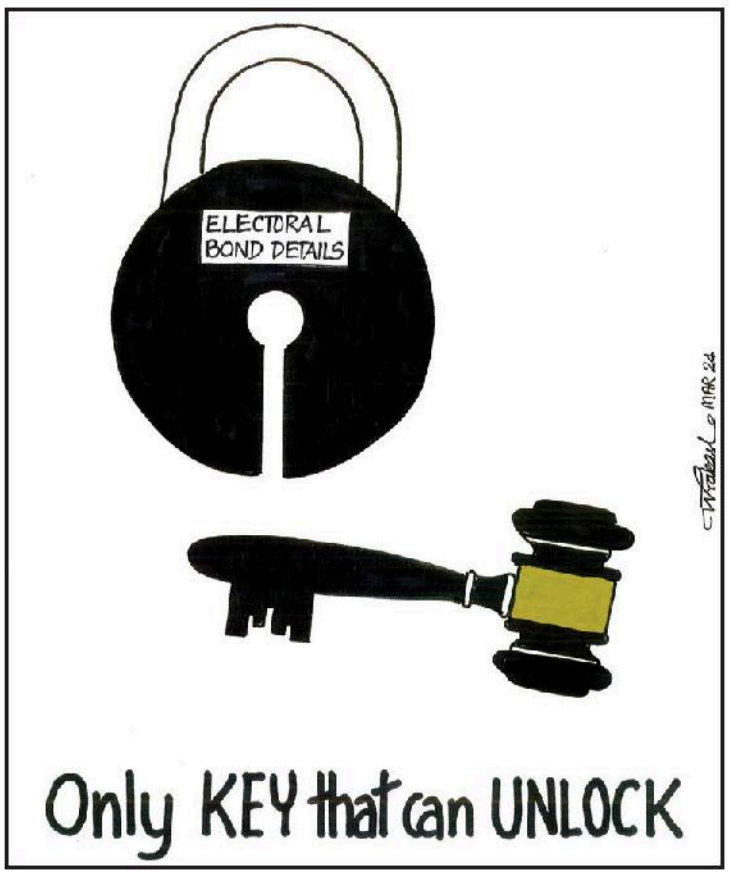
Meanwhile, Zilla Vokkaligara Yuva Vedike President N. Rajkumar, who also held a separate press meet today, expressed his confidence over Prathap Simha's candidature from BJP for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

Stating that the news about Mysore Royal Family member Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar being given the ticket was just a rumour, Rajkumar urged the BJP High Command to clear the air adding that Prathap Simha had successfully completed two terms by implementing various development projects in his jurisdiction which no other MPs had done previously.

"BJP in the name of experiment has suffered in the previous Assembly Polls. Despite knowing the results of previous experiment, the party should not indulge in similar experiment," he said

State Vokkaligara Sangha Director C.G. Gangadhar, Prema Shankaregowda, Suresh Gowda, Satish Gowda, Ravi Kumar and others were present.

TEASER By N. Prakash



PM Modi to dedicate many railway projects tomorrow

SWR Mysuru Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Shilpi Agarwal (2nd from left) addressing a press conference at her office in Mysuru this morning as (from left) Additional DRM Vinayak Naik, Additional DRM E. Vijaya and Senior Divisional Operations Manager Ankita Verma.

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (BLU&BCT)- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate or lay foundation stones for over 6,000 railway projects worth over Rs. 85,000 crore via video-conferencing tomorrow, Tuesday, Mar. 12 at 9 am.

These include 80 projects worth Rs. 5,241.41 crore of South Western Railway (SWR). He will be inaugurating and dedicating various Railway projects, including new line, doubling line projects, One Station One Product units, and Jan Aushadi Kendras at different Railway Stations nationwide.

In addition, the PM will flag off 10 Vande Bharat Express trains and extension of four Vande Bharat Express trains, SWR Mysuru Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Shilpi Agarwal said at a press conference at her office in Mysuru this morning.

Key projects that will be inaugurated are, the Multi-Modal Logistic Park at Kadakola, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadi Kendra at Mysuru Railway Station, One Station One Products Stalls at stations across Mysuru Division and flagging off New Vande Bharat train service from Mysuru to Chennai (flagging off from Chennai), she added.

The Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Kadakola, situated in the Thandavapura Industrial Area of Nanjangud taluk, Mysuru district, Karnataka, stands as a flagship project ready for commissioning.

The DRM said that the project has an investment of approximately Rs. 100 crore and the cutting-edge facility spans 60 acres of land, leased from the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board. Equipped with advanced amenities, including three full-length rail lines, warehouses, loading/unloading platforms, and a modern administrative building, the park ensures operational efficiency, she said.

Located strategically adjacent to the Mysuru-Nilgiri Highways, the Multi-Modal Logistics Park offers seamless connectivity to major ports such as the New Mangalore Port. This facilitates swift rail and road transportation for domestic and Exim cargo movements.

Part of the Gathi Shakti programme, this initiative is poised to transform the logistics infrastructure in the South West Region of Karnataka, driving economic growth and fostering employment opportunities, she added.

The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendra will provide top-quality generic medicines, surgical equipment, and essential healthcare items at discounted rates. By offering cost-effective healthcare solutions, it aims to serve railway passengers and the wider community, ensuring accessibility to vital medical supplies, Shilpi Agarwal added.

The 'One Station One Product' (OSOP) scheme has established outlets at multiple stations in the Mysuru Division, including Chikjajur, Chitradurga, Bantwal, Sakleshpur, and many others, to showcase and promote indigenous/local products.

This initiative provides a platform for local artisans and craftsmen to exhibit their talents, featuring items like Mysuru Sandal products, Channapatna Toys, Ilkal Sarees, organic goods, cold-pressed oils and more.

Power disruption tomorrow

Mysuru, Mar. 11 - Due to the fourth tri-monthly maintenance works taken up by CESC at Jayapura Power Distribution Centre and at Kalamandira Power Distribution Centre on Mar. 12, there will be no power supply between 10 am and 6 pm at villages coming under Jayapura Gram Panchayat (GP), Marballi GP, Gopalapura GP, Udbur GP, Dhanagalli GP, Harohalli GP and surrounding places, Saraswathipuram 1st Main to 5th Main, New Kantharaj Urs Road, K.G. Koppal Main Road, University Quarters, Muslim Hostel, from Murugan Medicals on Vishwamanava Double Road till Kukkarahalli Lake Road, Saraswathipuram 5th Main to 16th Main, Paduvarahalli, DC Bungalow, Regional Commissioner's Office, CFTRI campus, Valmiki Road, Judges Quarters, Vontikoppal, Hunsur Main Road, Vagdevinagar, SJCE and its surroundings, Chamaraja Mohalla, Zilla Panchayat Office, City Courts Complex, Devaraj Urs Road, DC Office, surroundings of Maharaja's and Yuvaraja's Colleges, Shivarampet, Dewan's Road, Dhanvanthri Road, JK Grounds and surrounding places, Metropole Hotel and surrounding places, JLB Road, Hotel Airlines Road, Maharaja's College Hostel area, Geetha Road, Ramaswamy Circle and surrounding areas, according to a press release from the CESC Executive Engineer, VV Mohalla Division.

Sports meet for Govt. staff from Mar. 12

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (GA&VNS)- The two-day district-level sports meet for State Government employees jointly organised by District Administration, Mysuru ZP and Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports will be held on Mar. 12 at Chamundi Vihar Stadium, said Government Employees Association District President J. Govindaraju.

Social Welfare and District In-charge Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa will inaugurate the sports meet at 10 am tomorrow. Sports and cultural events would be held in University of Mysore Sports Pavilion, Kannegowda Sports Grounds, Maharshi School and other grounds including Chamundi Vihar Stadium. The valedictory will be held on Mar. 13 at 4 pm. For details contact, Ph: 0821-2564179.

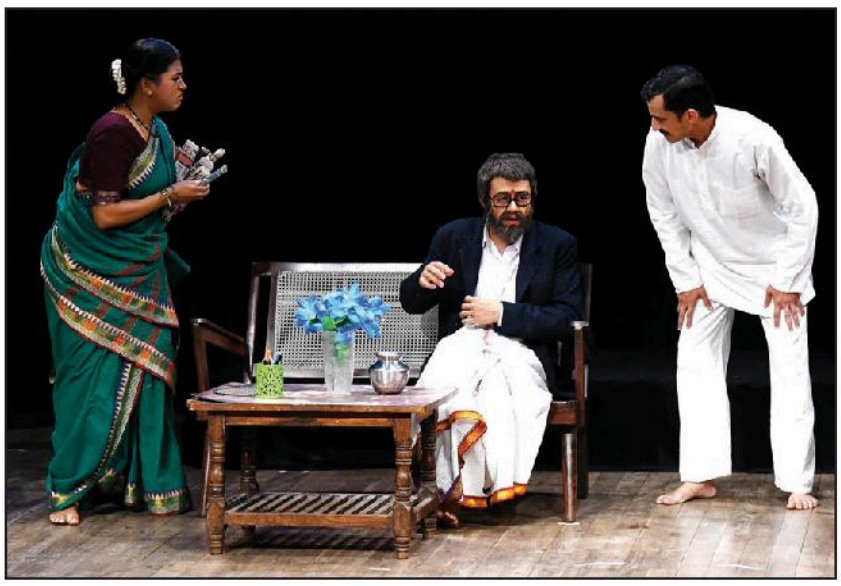
'Dandina Maramma Puja Mahotsava'

Mysuru, Mar. 11- Sri Dandina Maramma Puja Mahotsava Samithi of Mysuru-Bengaluru road and 13th Cross Ashokapuram is organising its annual 'Dandina Maramma Puja Mahotsava' from Mar.11 to 19 in city. On Mar. 11 at 12 midnight Homa and Puja will be held. On Mar. 12, *anna santharpane* has been organised for devotees at 12.30 pm.

The Jathra Mahotsava of Sri Dandina Maramma and Bisilu Maramma will begin on Mar. 18 at 10.45 am. At 6 pm on the same day, Yagashala Pravesha, Punyaha, Ganapati Puja, Navagraha Homa, Mahamruthyunjaya Homa, Durga Homa and at 12 midnight puja rituals for Sri Dandina Maramma and Bisilu Maramma will be held.

On Mar. 19 at 12 noon, *anna santharpane* has been organised and at 6 pm procession of Sri Dandina Maramma will be held.

Theatre buffs treated to meaningful plays



Artistes of Rangasiri Productions, Bengaluru, staging the Kannada play 'Black Out' at Kirurangamandira in Kalamandira premises as part of the ongoing Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival yesterday. Picture right shows a scene from the Malayalam play 'Chillara Samaram' being enacted by artistes of Little Earth School of Theatre, Kerala, at Kalamandira yesterday.

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (MK&VNS)- Theatre buffs were treated to different genres of plays at Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival in Rangayana and Kalamandira premises yesterday.

While some enjoyed comedy, the others preferred to watch play that depicted rural environment and social evils.

The Kannada play 'Black Out' staged by Rangasiri Productions, Bengaluru, at Kirurangamandira took the audience on a comedy ride. Bengali play 'Kittankhola' staged by Thakurpukur Ichhey-moto, Kolkata, at Bhoomigeeta in Rangayana premises showcased the life of rural India.

Meanwhile, the Kannada play 'Kariya Devara Huduki' staged by Samudaya, Bengaluru, at Vanaranga and the Malayalam play 'Chillara Samaram' by artistes of Little Earth School of Theatre, Kerala, at Kalamandira also received appreciation from the audience.

Artistes of Sumudaya, Bengaluru, staging the Kannada play 'Kariya Devara Huduki' at Vanaranga in Rangayana.

Rajashekhara and troupe of Ramasamudra in Chamarajanagar performing Goravara Kunita at Kindarijogi premises yesterday.

Babu Koraga and troupe from Pambur, Udupi, performing 'Koragara Dolu' at Kindarijogi premises as a part of Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival in city yesterday.

'We continue to live as cultural slaves'

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (MK&VNS)- We continue to live as cultural slaves amidst inequalities like the caste system, touchable-untouchables and haves and have-nots existing in the society. Despite this, India which is a pluralistic society has accepted everyone, said Poet **Prof. S.G. Siddaramaiah,** here yesterday.

Delivering the valedictory address of National Seminar organised as a part of Bahuroopi-2024 at Rangayana, he said that the country has been suffering since 3,500 years owing to charturvarna system that gave rise to caste stratification.

"Iva Nammava Iva Nammava' is not just a slogan but a symbol of India's pluralism. It is Basavanna, who is the symbol of pluralism and not Hindutva's Rama. If hate-promoting politics is considered to be divine, the pluralistic politics that promotes love and affection is Basava Tatva (ideology). Writers and artistes should come together to build a harmonious society. Theatre will reach more people if it includes subjects like hunger, women issues and suffering of untouchability," he said.

Speaking about the text book politics, Prof. Siddaramaiah said that it was important to come out with text books that interest the students and not those text books where children are forced to understand certain chapters.

Bahuroopi-2024 Convenor Prof. H.S. Umesh, Department of Kannada and Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy, Rangayana Deputy Director Nirmala Mathapati were present.

Awareness rally on preventing air pollution taken out in city

Mysuru, Mar. 11 (GA&DM)- As part of the 35th National Road Safety Month, an awareness rally was taken out under the aegis of the Office of the Joint Transport Commissioner in city recently.

The rally, with the theme 'Use electric vehicles, check for air pollution, change engine oil periodically,' commenced from the RTO (West) Office in Chamarajapuram, passed through M.G. Road and Mahatma Gandhi bust opposite the City Law Courts Complex, before culminating at the starting point.

The participants held placards that carried messages on the importance of controlling air pollution and the use of electrical vehicles.

RTOs Devika and Shafiuddin and other staff were present.

Arty and Crafty

The art work 'In Search of Safety' depicting a 'husband and wife with 4 children, a pet dog and a cylinder on a scooter' which won prize at the 16th Annual Sculpture Exhibition organised by Shilpakala Academy.

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Young and emerging artists thrive in the cultural legacy of Mysuru, following the footsteps of seasoned practitioners and attaining success across diverse artistic domains. Hailing from Hinkal, **L. Basavaraju** is a promising figure among the new generation of artists.

Having earned a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree from the prestigious Chamarajendra Academy of Visual Arts (CAVA) in Mysuru, now rechristened as Government College of Visual Arts, Basavaraju has been actively engaged in a myriad of artistic expressions for the past two decades.

His repertoire includes stone carving, wood carving, relief art (embossed art), fibre art, clay art, wall carving, cement art creation and mural art. Progressing quietly yet steadily, he has honed his skills across these varied art forms.

In 2020, Basavaraju won prize at the 16th Annual Sculpture Exhibition organised by Shilpakala Academy for his creation depicting a 'husband and wife with four children (all wearing masks) and a pet dog on a scooter." This artwork served as an advocacy tool for the mandatory rule of mask-wearing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A genuine representative of indigenous art, Basavaraju excels in the art that was learnt, experienced and practised at CAVA. Making optimal use of the opportunities presented to him, he garnered acclaim early in his career.

Having mastered an array of art forms such as stone, wood, clay, fibre, embossing and carving decorative objects, he exemplifies qualities of precision, patience, rhythm, smoothness and delicacy required for carving. The artistic endeavours of Basavaraju flourish through his meticulously chiselled works and carvings, numbering in the hundreds. Among them, a notable stone sculpture depicts a woman carrying a fruit basket on her head while cradling a child in her arms.

Installed in the Cheluvamba Hospital premises, his creations include the 'Kanya Suraksha Vritta,' a stone figure of Sahu Maharaj, the Constitutional Architect Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, an idol of Lord Eshwara, an idol of Gowri, Sarvajna statue, an Annamacharya statue and Buddha. Additionally, Basavaraju has delved into tribal carvings like the hunting scene sculpture, executing stone carvings inspired by Periyar and others.

In the realm of embossed art, Basavaraju has adorned house walls with cow-calf depictions,

L. Basavaraju with one of his creations — A cement statue of Sarvajna.

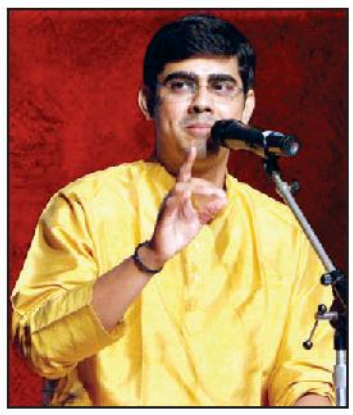
Kamadhenu and other figures, conceptualised under the theme of 'Panchabhuta.' The stone carvings gracing temple entrances showcase exquisite craftsmanship. For residential and commercial aesthetics, he has crafted stone fountains. Proficient in 3D and 2D engraving, as well as illustration, Basavaraju has demonstrated his expertise in cement statue crafting, with various installations across the State.

Participating in National and State-level sculpture camps organised by Shilpakala Academy, Basavaraju has earned accolades from both the Academy and various organisations for his on-the-spot creation of statues and figures.

Reflecting on his journey, Basavaraju, says, "Even in my childhood, I harboured a keen interest in art, particularly in creating works from stone, wood and clay. This passion led me to study art at CAVA and graduate with an MFA. Engaging in Shilpakala Academy camps broadened my understanding of different art forms. I've crafted stone, wood and clay figures tailored to the preferences of many, earning appreciation, especially for stone sculptures. My deep commitment to art carving stems from a desire to elevate Mysuru's art heritage to greater heights."

Sikkil Gurucharan performs at Gorur

Situated 22 kms away from Hassan, Gorur is a small sacred village known for its dam, its beautiful Hemavati River, Sri Yoganarasimha Temple, 1400-year-old Paravasudeva Temple and the big personalities it has produced — One of Karnataka's foremost literary writers Gorur Ramaswamy Iyengar and Captain G.R. Gopinath of Deccan Airlines, to name a few.



Sikkil Gurucharan

The Hemavati River starts in the Western Ghats at an elevation of about 1,219 metres near Balur in Mudigere taluk of Chikmagalur district. It flows through Hassan district where it is joined by its chief tributary, the Yagachi River, and then into Mandya district before joining the Kaveri near Krishnarajasagar.

Captain Gopinath and his family organise a music concert every year here on the previous evening of Rathasaptami in memory of their parents. This year, **Sikkil Gurucharan** was invited to give a vocal concert. He was accompanied by **Mattur Srinidhi** on violin, **Ranjani Venkatesh** on mridanga and **Guruprasanna** on kanjira.

Grandson of Sikkil Kunjumani, elder of the well-known Sikkil Sisters, Gurucharan is among the foremost young performing musicians of Karnatak music in India today.

For the present concert, Gurucharan had made a good list of selected compositions. He began the concert with the Abhogi Varna - 'Evvari Bodhana' by Sri Patnam Subramanya Iyer set to Adi Tala. He then took up 'Girija ramana Natajana Sharana' by Mysore Vasudevachar in Gambhira Nata.

The artiste attributed the word 'Paravasudeva' in the composition to the deity of the Paravasudeva Temple in Gorur. Bringing the notice of the audience to the Ragamudra in the composition, (which Vasudevachar rarely implements in his kritis), Gurucharan continued with the thread to another composition beginning with the name of the raga 'Ganamurte' by Saint Tyagaraja.

Rising to the occasion, the vocalist chose the line 'Naramitra Dheera Narasimha Shoora' for neraval, which created a good impact as the concert was held in the Yoganarasimhaswamy Temple premises.

The concert brightened up farther with 'Mosa Hodenallo' by Sri Purandaradasaru in shubhapantuvarali followed by another devaranama also by Purandaradasaru 'Rama Nama Payasake Krishna Nama Sakkare' in Ananda bhairavi, in which the mistakes would go unnoticed had it not been for Gurucharan's clear pronunciation of sahitya.

The ragalapana of Khamas had some strikingly aesthetic phrases leading onto a beautiful composition of Deekshitar 'Sarasadalanayana Sankata Harana Hare Govinda Mam pahi' on Krishna, wherein Deekshitar intellectually knits the name of the raga in a tricky manner in the beginning of the charana 'Maghamasa.' The vocalist brought this to the notice of the listeners before moving onto the rendition of the kriti.

The highlight of the evening was the artful rendition of Mohana. Gurucharan handled the notes with expertise, with the judicious use of gamakas in the right places, embellishing it with aesthetic dynamics. Srinidhi's violin repartee complemented the vocalist's thought process and singing. Sri Tyagaraja's 'Mohana Rama' was the composition chosen. The composition was presented in the right speed in an unhurried manner, bringing out the beauty of the lyrics in clear diction for which Gurucharan is known for. The swara passage for the pallavi portion was elaborate and energetic, after which the Taniyavartanam commenced.

The main attraction of the concert was the mridanga playing by Ranjani Venkatesh. While the instrument always brings to mind a heavy male playing with might, the fragile looking Ranjani took everyone by surprise. Her musical and vibrant playing throughout the concert and in Taniyavartanam was captivating.

Guruprasanna's interchange of dialogues with the mridangist was equally fascinating.

The post-tani part included 'Vandeham Sharadam' by Swamy Dayananda Saraswati in Yamunakalyani on request and a Lalgudi Tillana.

—Dr. Padmavathi Narasimhan

WORD OF THE DAY

Descry

Pronunciation: dih-SKRYE (verb)
Meaning: Descry is a literary word that, like discover or find out, means "to come to realise or understand something." Descry can also mean "to catch sight of."
Origin: If you've ever mixed up the words descry and decry, you're not alone; even carefully edited publications occasionally mistake the former ("to catch sight of" or "to discover") for the latter ("to express strong disapproval of"), as in "the watchdog group's report descried (oops: decried) environmental pollution by manufacturers in the harshest terms." As always, we're here to help you descry handy ways to tell confusing words apart. In the case of descry and decry, pronunciation is key—the s in descry is not silent. Descry sounds just like the English verb describe without its closing b, and the two share a Latin root as well, the verb dēscrībere, meaning "to represent by drawing or speech." When you descry something, it becomes known to you either by discovery or understanding, as though it were well-described. Decry, on the other hand, emphasises cry when spoken, and shares roots with cry as well: when you decry something, you might be said to cry loudly your complaint.
Example: "Where does one begin to learn about Dundee's history and heart? Luckily, for a tourist, there is a place. It's called Verdant Works, a former jute mill in a part of the city known as Blackness. (Dickens couldn't have come up with a better name.) Once the employer of 500 people, the mill is a keyhole through which most of Dundee's history can be descried. Unlike many factory museums, its story is made vivid by docents only one or two generations removed from its inescapable clutches." — David Brown, The Washington Post, 30 Sept. 2022

THE ODD WORD

Imago

The idealised mental image of a person.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

A Lemon

Meaning: The phrase 'A lemon' typically describes a second hand vehicle that, once purchased, ends up having plenty of flaws.
Origin: Why would a juicy lemon relate to flawed merchandise? Because a lemon on its own is just a lump of sourness with a thick skin to boot.
Example: "My brothers' car is a lemon. He spends half of his weekend fixing his car."

QUOTE BOX

Life is given to us, we earn it by giving it. **—Rabindranath Tagore**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Up for grabs.

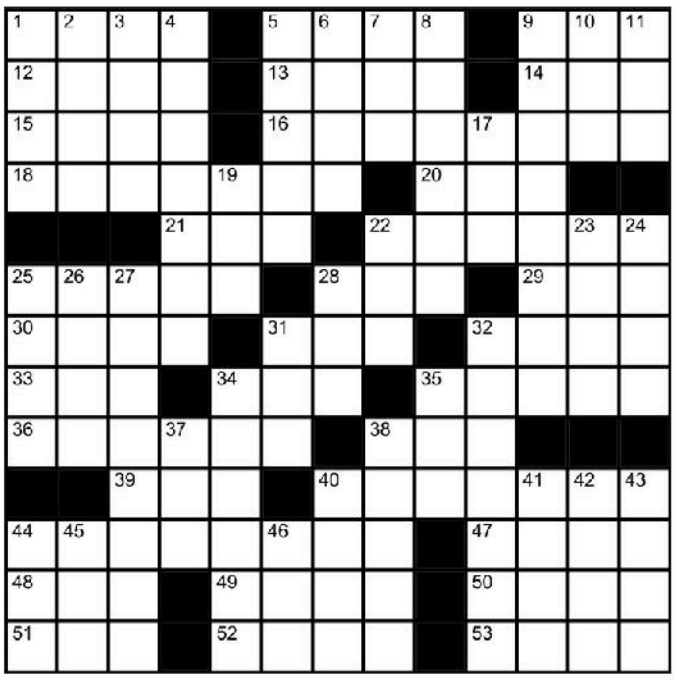
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 State dissolved in 1991
5 Biblical land - "a mob" dispersed?
9 "Bad Behaviour" star Stephen
12 "Last Days of Pompeii" role
13 You too in Latin (2,2)
14 A little devil!
15 Store
16 Openly optimistic
18 Red pepper sauce
20 Nothing!
21 Arabian or Red or Black
22 Spanish wine shop
25 Like a sheet, proverbially
28 Ancient Order of Shepherds
29 Fairy queen
30 Mountain goats
31 Income Tax Officer, in short?
32 Destroy or burn down; demolish
33 Internet Service Provider
34 Ash-container
35 Very severe
36 Thick digits?
38 Semi-solid colloidal solution or jelly
39 Milne marsupial
40 Arranged or displayed; exhibited
44 Counsel
47 Leaf of a book
48 CPR specialist
49 Grave or burial vault
50 Progressed in water
51 The month following April and preceding June
52 Cut, snicker - "seen" anagram?
53 "Done" anagram for a prefix?

DOWN
1 Hebridean isle - "suit" anagram ?
2 Chotta Nawab's sister seen in Rang De Basanti
3 Elitist
4 Meals
5 Birthplace of Mohammed
6 Roman emperor - "hoot" anagram?
7 ___ one's words : took back what one said rather abjectly?
8 ____ Aires : Argentina's capital city
9 An armed soldier
10 Australian bird
11 A Programming Lang.
17 ___ oneself of : free oneself from?
19 Use your eyes
22 Jeer or deride
23 Israel's ___ Strip
24 Cain's brother
25 A legal or formal document
26 Jumble; blotch or bungle
27 Adulterant
28 Aeronautical Telecommunications Network
31 U.S. tax dept.
32 Medical regression
34 Former German vessels (1-5)
35 For each
37 Very modern, up-to-date
38 Wading bird
40 Highest point
41 Sign of boredom
42 A slang word uttered in amazement or surprise
43 Display or practice model (abbrev.)
44 Precious stone
45 __ Devi aka Tuntun
46 Prefix for "reverse of" or "absence of"?

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

P	A	E	S	■	E	E	R	■	L	I	N	E
H	I	T	H	E	R	T	O	■	O	N	E	R
I	M	P	A	S	S	E	S	■	A	D	E	S
■	■	■	N	N	E	■	E	F	F	O	R	T
T	R	A	D	E	■	T	W	E	E	■	■	■
L	E	V	Y	■	D	O	O	R	D	I	E	■
C	T	O	■	M	E	L	O	N	■	R	A	N
■	S	W	O	O	N	E	D	■	R	I	T	E
■	■	■	T	R	O	T	■	S	A	S	S	Y
Q	U	A	I	N	T	■	I	N	F	■	■	■
U	N	T	O	■	I	S	S	U	A	B	L	E
I	D	E	S	■	N	U	M	B	E	R	E	D
Z	O	N	E	■	G	P	S	■	L	O	O	P



SUDOKU

		9	3	7				
	4	2	1				3	
							9	2
			5		3		6	7
1				9				5
9	5		8		7			
6	8							
	3				4	6	8	
				5	8	3		

Answer to previous puzzle

2	7	9	3	8	4	6	1	5
5	6	1	9	7	2	4	8	3
8	3	4	6	5	1	9	2	7
6	9	5	8	1	3	7	4	2
1	2	3	4	6	7	5	9	8
7	4	8	2	9	5	1	3	6
3	1	7	5	4	8	2	6	9
4	8	6	7	2	9	3	5	1
9	5	2	1	3	6	8	7	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

OPMK NDU JDLPB YDX EODL PMBP DO ORJIPB DO EODL XIP

VOMRBP DE LPY, GTX EODL ADRYQ BDLPXIRYQ SDOXISIRKP.

TODAY'S CLUE: Q EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Don't discuss yourself, for you are bound to lose; if you belittle yourself, you are believed; if you praise yourself, you are disbelieved.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — Ph: 2520494
  Upadhyaksha (K) - 2 Shows; *Shaitaan (H)* - 2 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — Ph: 2443568
  Ranganayaka (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — Mob: 98454-14691
  Kaatera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — Mob: 99008-20093
  Karataka Dhamanaka (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Karataka Dhamanaka (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — Ph: 2423554
  Karataka Dhamanaka (K) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — Ph: 2497199
  Shaitaan (H) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — Ph: 2452958
  Bhimaa (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — Ph: 2420885
  Bhimaa (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Bhimaa (Te) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Gaami (Te)	(S-1)	10.40 am, 10.10 pm
Jog 101 (K)	(S-1)	1.40 pm
Article 370 (H)	(S-1)	4.00 pm, 7.05 pm
Karataka Damanaka (K)	(S-2)	10.20 am
	(S-4)	1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm
Shaitaan (H)	(S-2)	1.25 pm, 7.10 pm
Dune Part 2 (E)	(S-2)	4.00 pm
Ranganayaka (K)	(S-2)	9.50 pm; (S-4) 10.35 am
Blink (K)	(S-3)	10.25 am
Ondu Sarala Prema Kathe (K)	(S-3)	1.15 pm
Bhima (Te)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Manjumale (Ma)	(S-3)	7.10 pm
Thankamani (Ma)	(S-3)	9.55 pm

MVC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Karataka Damanaka (K)	:	10.30 am, 12.55 pm, 4.05 pm 6.30 pm, 9.30 pm
Ranganayaka (K)	:	10.30 am, 1.35 pm, 7.05 pm
Shaitaan (H)	:	10.45 am, 1.25 pm, 3.55 pm 6.55 pm, 9.30 pm
Kailasa Kasidre (K)	:	1.55 pm
Bhimaa (Te)	:	4.00 pm
Premalu (Te)	:	4.20 pm
Jog 101 (K)	:	7.20 pm
Guardian (2024) (Ta)	:	9.30 pm
Operation Valentine (Te)	:	9.30 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Article 370 (H)	:	3.50 pm
Dune Part Two (E)	:	10.05 pm
Shaitaan (H)	:	10.50 am, 1.45 pm, 4.40 pm 7.35 pm,10.30 pm
Karataka Damanaka (K)	:	9.20 am, 12.35 pm, 3.50 pm 7.05 pm, 10.20 pm
Laapataa Ladies (H)	:	1.10 pm
Manjummel Boys (Ma)	:	9.40 am, 12.45 pm, 7.10 pm 10.15 pm
Gammi (Te)	:	10 am, 7 pm
Ranganayaka (K)	:	11.10 am, 7.35 pm
Jog 101 (K)	:	1.50 pm
Baby (Ta)	:	4.20 pm
Thankamani (Ma)	:	10.15 pm
Vaaranam Aayiram (Ta)	:	3.45 pm
All of Us Strangers (E)	:	10 am, 7.35 pm
Ondu Sarala Prema Kathe (K)	:	12.30 pm
Bhimaa (Te)	:	3.55 pm, 10.10 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Karataka Damanaka (K)	:	9 am, 12.15 pm, 3.30 pm, 6.45 pm, 10 pm
Shaitaan (H)	:	9.20 am, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Bhimaa (Te)	:	10 am, 7.10 pm
Manjummel Boys (Ma)	:	10.35 am, 1.40 pm, 7.25 pm
Gargi (K)	:	12.15 pm
Blink (K)	:	1.05 pm
Gaami (Te)	:	4.00 pm
Laapataa Ladies (H)	:	4.00 pm
Ranganayaka (K)	:	4.45 pm, 10.30 pm
Article 370 (H)	:	10.15 pm

Pre-school Teachers Alumni Meet & Convocation

IMKTA Teacher Training Programs India Mysore, at Alpha International School, situated on Manandavadi Road, Srirampura Ring Road, had organised an Alumni Meet and Convocation on completing 20 years of IMKTA Teacher Training. During the event, alumni presented various cultural activities. The event concluded with oath-taking ceremony of outgoing trainees.

EVENTS TODAY (MARCH 11)

- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival (Theme: 'Iva Nammava Iva Nammava'), Bahuroopi Film Festival - Screening of *My Octopus Teacher* (English; Director - Pippa Ehrlich & James Reed), **10.30 am to 12 noon;** *A Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood* (English; Director - Marielle Heller), **12 noon to 1.30 pm;** *Arjuna* (Kannada; Director - Rangayana Sridhar), Sriranga auditorium, **2 pm to 4.30 pm;** 'Elekoralu Ulidave Kela' by students of Bharatiya Rangashikshana Kendra, Rangayana, Mysuru, B.V. Karantha Ranga Cahavadi, **4 pm to 5 pm;** 'Karaga Kolata' by Punith and Troupe, Udyavara, Udupi, 'Kangilu' by Sugipu Janapada Kala Tanda, Bangle Gudde, Sullia, Kindarijogi premises, **5.30 pm;** Staging of Kannada play 'Paarshwa Sangeetha' by Rangavalli, Mysuru (Original - Srinivasa Vaidya; Adaptation - B.P. Arun; Music, Concept and Direction - Prashant Hiremath), Kirurangamandira, **6 pm;** Staging of non-verbal play 'Aboriginal Cry' by Akhoka Theatre, Imphal, Manipur (Concept, Design and Direction - Thoudam Victor Singh), Bhoomigeeta, **6.30 pm;** Staging of Kannada play 'Beralge Koral' by Nalwadi Social, Cultural & Educational Trust, Mysuru (Playwright - Kuvempu; Direction - Dinesh Chammalige), Vanaranga, 7 pm; Staging of Tulu play 'Kathe Eddendu' by Sharada Arts Kalavidaru, Manjeshwara, Kasaragod (Playwright and Direction - J.P. Tuminadu), Kalamandira, **7.30 pm.**
- **Brahmibhoota Sri Vasudeva Maharaj Foundation:** Sri Vasudeva Maharaja's 86th Jayanthyutsava - Mass Vishnusahasranama Parayana and discourse on 'Spirituality in life' by Prof. K. Anantaramu, conferring of 'Sri Vasudeva Maharaj Sadbhavana Award-2024,' MLC Dr. D. Thimmaiah inaugurates, social worker K. Raghuram Vajpayee offers floral tribute, District Kannada Sahitya Parishat Mysuru President Maddikere Gopal presides, Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple CEO K.R. Yoganarasimhan, cultural thinker Dr. Gururaj Poshettihalli and Datta Kriyayoga Teacher M. Mohan chief guests, Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple, Yadugiri Mutt, Kalidasa Road, **5 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 12)

- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru:** 189th Jayanti of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa, Vedic Chanting, **5.15 am;** Mangalarati and Bhajans, **5.30 am;** Special Puja, **7.30 pm;** Vishnusahasranama, **8 am;** Bhajans, **9 am;** Reading of selected passages, **10.30 am;** Mahamangalarati, **10.45 am;** Homa, **11 am;** Prasada Distribution, **12 noon;** Bhajans by Sri Sharada Samvit Bhajana Mandali, **4.30 pm;** Discourse in Kannada on 'Sri Ramakrishna's Life and Teachings,' **6 pm;** Sandyarati and Bhajans, Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **7 pm.**

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Manjummel Boys (Ma)	(S-2)	10.10 pm; (S-3) 7.30 pm
	(S-4)	4.20 pm
Article 370 (H)	(S-4)	1.00 pm
Karataka Damaraka (K)	(S-1)	12.55 pm, 7.05 pm
	(S-2)	9.50 am, 4.00 pm
Shaitaan (H)	(S-1)	10 am, 4.10 pm, 10.20 pm
	(S-2)	1.05 pm, 7.15 pm
Ranganayaka (K)	(S-4)	7.20 pm
Gaami (Te)	(S-3)	10.05 am, 4.20 pm
Bhbhimaa (Te)	(S-3)	1.10 pm, 10.30 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Karataka Damanaka (K)	:	9.30 am, 1.05 pm, 7:00 pm
Shaitaan (H)	:	9.30 am, 12.45 pm, 4.20 pm 7.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Ranganayaka (K)	:	10.05 am, 4.40 pm
Bhimaa (Te)	:	10.20 am, 7.20 pm
Trailers Screening Show	:	12.45 pm
Blink (K)	:	1.25 pm
Laapataa Ladies (H)	:	1.30 pm
Manjummel Boys (Ma)	:	3.45 pm, 10.30 pm
Kailasa Kasidre (K)	:	4.20 pm
Jog 101 (K)	:	7.05 pm
Thankamani (Ma)	:	9.30 pm
Gaami (Te)	:	10.30 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15.

WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE

TODAY'S MATCH (MARCH 11)

GUJARAT GIANTS Vs U.P WARRIORZ

GG Vs UPW
Arun Jaitley Stadium, New Delhi - **7.30 pm**

TOMORROW'S MATCH (MARCH 12)

MUMBAI INDIANS Vs RCB

MI Vs RCB
Arun Jaitley Stadium, New Delhi - **7.30 pm**

YESTERDAY'S RESULT

DC 181 / 5 (20 overs)
BEAT
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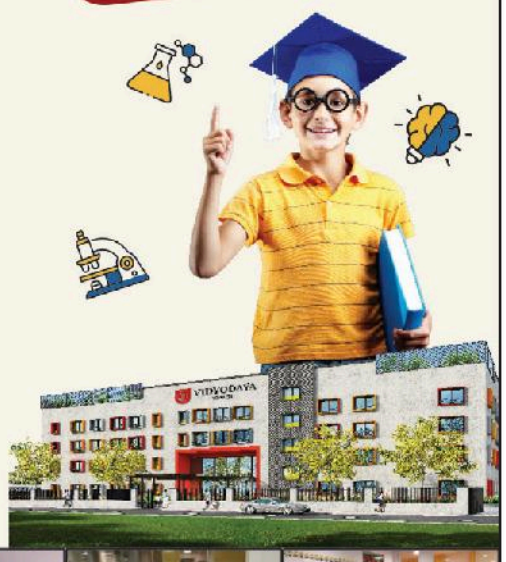

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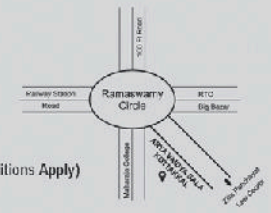

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